

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 194698

54

ORIGIN ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02

INSE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 SCA-01 VO-03 DPW-01 OMB-01 ABF-01 /100 R

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APPROVED BY D/HA:JMWILSON, JR.

D/HA/ORM:JLCARLIN

INS:TBROBSON

EA:RHMILLER

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O 052213Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RANGOON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 194698

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 194698

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES - THE UNHCR APPEAL FOR
FIRST ASYLUM AND RESETTLEMENT.

REF: GENEVA 6091

1. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES UNHCR APPEAL WILL BE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO MEETING PROBLEM OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES WHO ESCAPE HOMELAND BY BOAT, AND ASKS ALL ADDRESSEES TO MAKE KNOWN TO HOST GOVERNMENTS USG'S INTENT TO COOPERATE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE WITH THE UNHCR PROPOSAL. TEXT OF OUR REPLY FOLLOWS, FOR GENEVA TO DELIVER TO SADDRUDIN AGA KHAN, AND FOR OTHER ADDRESSEES TO PASS TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS:

QUOTE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES' PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT DIRECTED TOWARD THE PROBLEM OF THE DISPLACED PERSONS FROM INDOCHINA TRAVELING IN SMALL BOATS IN SEARCH OF ASYLUM. THE APPEAL AND ITS SCHEME FOR TEMPORARY ASYLUM AT PORT OF FIRST CALL AND EARLY PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT IN OTHER COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM CONSTITUTE A MANIFESTLY HUMANE, CONSTRUCTIVE, AND PRACTICABLE APPROACH TO A MATTER OF THE UTMOST GRAVITY. THEREFORE THE UNITED STATES PLEDGES ITS FULLEST SUPPORT OF AND

COOPERATION WITH THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND ALL NATIONS WHICH RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE APPEAL.
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PAGE 03 STATE 194698

OF THE ESTIMATED 900 REFUGEES WHO LEFT INDOCHINA IN BOATS DURING RECENT MONTHS, THE U.S. HAS ALREADY APPROVED MORE THAN 600 FOR ENTRY, MOST OF THEM AS PART OF CURRENT PROGRAM ENLARGING THE NUMBER ADMITTED AND RESETTLED FROM 134,000 IN 1975 TO 145,000. IN THE FUTURE, PRIORITY ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO THE REFUGEES WHO HAVE REACHED FIRST ASYLUM BY BOAT IN COUNTRIES ON THE PERIPHERY OF THE

SOUTH CHINA SEA. IN AID OF THIS POLICY, DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SCREEN REFUGEES NEWLY ARRIVING BY BOAT AND TO INITIATE PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS OF THOSE REFUGEES WHO APPEAR TO QUALIFY FOR ENTRY INTO THE U.S. THUS TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE THE UNITED STATES IS ACTING AND WILL CONTINUE TO ACT IN SUPPORT OF THE APPEAL BY THE UNHCR AND IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE SCHEME PROPOSED

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS GRATIFIED THAT THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IS PROVIDING BOTH THE IMMEDIATE PROTECTION OF HIS OFFICE AND THE MEANS FOR DURABLE RESETTLEMENT TO THESE DESPERATE PERSONS, AND CONGRATULATES HIM ON HIS ACT OF HUMANITARIAN STATESMANSHIP. BE ASSURED THAT THE UNITED STATES SHALL SUSTAIN ITS CONCERN FOR THE PROBLEM AND COOPERATION TOWARDS SOLUTION AS REQUESTED IN THE APPEAL.END QUOTE.

2. IN DISCUSSING THIS PROBLEM WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS, ADDRESSEE POSTS SHOULD INFORM THEM OF THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR RESPONSE TO THE UNHCR APPEAL. FOR POST INFORMATION, WE EXPECT TO MEET THIS PROBLEM IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE THROUGH A COMBINATION OF RECOUPED NUMBERS FROM THE EXPANDED PAROLE PROGRAM (EPP) AND CONDITIONAL ENTRY NUMBERS IF AVAILABLE AND APPROPRIATE AND THE APPLICANT IS AT A CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROCESSING LOCATION. IN AREAS WHERE EPP NUMBERS ARE USED, REFUGEES WILL HAVE TO MEET EPP CRITERIA.

3. IN COUNTRIES OF TRADITIONAL IMMIGRATION OR OTHER COUNTRIES WHERE IT IS HOPED THAT REFUGEES MIGHT BE ACCEPTED FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT, POSTS SHOULD APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENT TO URGE A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE UNHCR APPEAL. THERE IS NO REFUGEE SITUATION TODAY MORE COMPELLING.
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PAGE 04 STATE 194698

ING IN HUMANITARIAN TERMS THAN THAT OF THE INDOCHINESE REFUGEE WHO, HAVING SUCCEEDED AT GREAT RISK, IN ESCAPING BY BOAT, FINDS HIMSELF REPEATEDLY TURNED AWAY OR, AT BEST, RECEIVED ON VERY LIMITED AND NARROW TERMS. CERTAINLY, THE U.S. STANDS READY TO DO ITS SHARE IN MEETING THIS CRITICAL PROBLEM, BUT IT IS CLEARLY A SITUATION WITH WHICH

THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST DEAL ON AN URGENT BASIS.

4. WHILE EMPHASIZING THE HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS OF THIS PROBLEM, POSTS MIGHT ALSO POINT OUT THAT THE QUALITY OF THE REFUGEES ESCAPING BY BOAT AND THEIR RESETTLEABILITY CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE HIGH GIVEN THE COMBINATION OF INTELLIGENCE AND INSTINCTUAL FORTITUDE REQUIRED TO PLAN AND

EXECUTE SUCH AN ESCAPE. FURTHERMORE, THESE REFUGEES HAVE DEMONSTRATED DRAMATICALLY BY SUCH AN ACTION THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE REGIME IN THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND THUS CAN EXPECT TO BE TREATED WITH GREAT SEVERITY SHOULD THEY EVER FIND THEMSELVES RETURNED TO THAT LAND. FYI. GIVEN HOPED FOR POSITIVE RESPONSES BY GOVERNMENTS OF TRADITIONAL IMMIGRANT COUNTRIES, WE INTEND SUBSEQUENTLY TO SUPPORT UNHCR APPEAL TO COUNTRIES OF FIRST ASYLUM TO ACCEPT BOAT CASES ON TEMPORARY BASIS RATHER THAN TURN THEM AWAY.

5. FOR GENEVA: DEPT REQUESTS UNHCR ESTIMATE OF COSTS FOR PROVIDING CARE AND MAINTENANCE FACILITIES OVER 12 MONTHS PERIOD FOR BOAT CASES NOW KNOWN TO UNHCR IN INDONESIA; MALAYSIA, THAILAND, PHILIPPINES, HONG KONG, TAIWAN, AND JAPAN. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES DEPT ASSUMES A NUMBER AT LEAST AS LARGE AS NOW IN THOSE COUNTRIES FOR FIRST ASYLUM WILL BE MAINTAINED BY THE CONTINUING OUTFLOW FROM VIETNAM, WITH ONWARD MOVEMENT FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT APPROXIMATELY 2 MONTHS AFTER REACHING SAFE HAVEN. PLEASE GIVE ASSUMPTIONS UNHCR MAKES FOR ITS BUDGET THIS REGARD. IN DISCUSSING THIS MATTER, PLEASE URGE UNHCR TO SEND REPLACEMENT FOR UN REP DHAR IN MANILA ASAP TO PERMIT OVERLAP DURING AUGUST, AND TO ASSIGN UN REP FOR MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE AND INDONESIA TO REPLACE REP NOW ASSIGNED HONG KONG, OR ASSIGN SEMI-PERMANENT REP FOR HONG KONG SO THAT SUMPAT KUMPAR CAN RETURN TO KUALA LUMPUR. (FYI: DEPT CONSIDERING CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 05 STATE 194698

USE OF REFUGEE EMERGENCY FUNDS TO SUPPORT CARE AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS, AND ASSISTANCE FOR TRAVEL TO THIRD COUNTRIES.) HABIB

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PAGE 01 STATE 294698

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INFO OCT-01 IO-02 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: D/HA/ORM:HBCUSHING:CML

APPROVED BY: D/HA - JLCARLIN

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 194698

FOR AMBASSADOR SCRANTON

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 194698 ACTION GENEVA HONG KONG BANGKOK
JAKARTA KUALA LUMPUR MANILA SINGAPORE TAIPEI TOKYO RANGOON
CANBERRA WELLINGTON OTTAWA LONDON COPENHAGEN OSLO STOCKHOLM
THE HAGUE BRUSSELS BONN PARIS BERN VIENNA ROME ATHENS ANKARA
TEHRAN CARACAS BRASILIA BOGOTA 05 AUG 1975

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 194698

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

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PAGE 02 STATE 294698

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FOR AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT DIRECTED TOWARD THE PROBLEM OF
THE DISPLACED PERSONS FROM INDOCHINA TRAVELING IN SMALL
BOATS IN SEARCH OF ASYLUM. THE APPEAL AND ITS SCHEME FOR
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PAGE 03 STATE 294698

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3. IN COUNTRIES OF TRADITIONAL IMMIGRATION OR OTHER COUNTRIES WHERE IT IS HOPED THAT REFUGEES MIGHT BE ACCEPTED FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT, POSTS SHOULD APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENT TO URGE A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE UNHCR APPEAL. THERE IS NO REFUGEE SITUATION TODAY MORE COMPELLING IN HUMANITARIAN TERMS THAN THAT OF THE INDOCHINESE REFUGEE WHO, HAVING SUCCEEDED AT GREAT RISK, IN ESCAPING BY BOAT, FINDS HIMSELF REPEATEDLY TURNED AWAY OR, AT BEST, RECEIVED ON VERY LIMITED AND NARROW TERMS. CERTAINLY, THE U.S. STANDS READY TO DO ITS SHARE IN MEETING THIS CRITICAL PROBLEM, BUT IT IS CLEARLY A SITUATION WITH WHICH

THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST DEAL ON AN URGENT BASIS.

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5. FOR GENEVA: DEPT REQUESTS UNHCR ESTIMATE OF COSTS FOR PROVIDING CARE AND MAINTENANCE FACILITIES OVER 12 MONTHS
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PAGE 04 STATE 294698

PERIOD FOR BOAT CASES NOW KNOWN TO UNHCR IN INDONESIA; MALAYSIA, THAILAND, PHILIPPINES, HONG KONG, TAIWAN, AND JAPAN. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES DEPT ASSUMES A NUMBER AT LEAST AS LARGE AS NOW IN THOSE COUNTRIES FOR FIRST ASYLUM WILL BE MAINTAINED BY THE CONTINUING OUTFLOW FROM VIETNAM, WITH ONWARD MOVEMENT FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT APPROXIMATELY 2 MONTHS AFTER REACHING SAFE HAVEN. PLEASE GIVE ASSUMPTIONS UNHCR MAKES FOR ITS BUDGET THIS REGARD. IN DISCUSSING THIS MATTER, PLEASE URGE UNHCR TO SEND REPLACEMENT FOR UN REP DHAR IN MANILA ASAP TO PERMIT OVERLAP DURING AUGUST, AND TO ASSIGN UN REP FOR MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE AND INDONESIA TO REPLACE REP NOW ASSIGNED HONG KONG, OR ASSIGN SEMI-PERMANENT REP FOR HONG KONG SO THAT SUMPAT KUMPAR CAN RETURN TO KUALA LUMPUR. (FYI: DEPT CONSIDERING USE OF REFUGEE EMERGENCY FUNDS TO SUPPORT CARE AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS, AND ASSISTANCE FOR TRAVEL TO THIRD COUNTRIES.) HABIB UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 05 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HBCUSHING:SCLOWMAN:LGS
Enclosure: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: SREF, XX, XC, UNHCR
To: GENEVA HONG KONG BANGKOK MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006